## Message Text

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**ORIGIN COA-02** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 COME-00 SCI-06 L-03

DLOS-06 IO-14 CEQ-02 INT-08 SMI-01 DODE-00 SS-20

NSC-10 EB-11 FMC-04 AGR-20 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /172 R

DRAFTED BY SFW/COA W.G.VANCAMPEN:EEB APPROVED BY SFW/COA W.G.VANCAMPEN COM/NOAA/NMFS-MR. HALLMAN (SUB) L/OA-MS. WEST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

**UNCLAS STATE 211498** 

E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: EFIS XP

SUBJECT: PORPOISE ITEM ON AGENDA OF INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL

TUNA COMMISSION

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 12-16 ANNUAL MEETING OF IATTC HAS AS ITEM 8 QUOTE THE PORPOISE TUNA RELATIONSHIP AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS END QUOTE. IN THIS CONNECTION, ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT OF-UNCLASSIFIED

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FICE CONCERNED WITH IATTC AFFAIRS THAT US NATIONAL SECTION

OF COMMISSION HAS SENT FOLLOWING LETTER TO DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS:

QUOTE DEAR DR. JOSEPH: AS YOU KNOW, IN OCTOBER OF 1972
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SIGNED INTO LAW THE
MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT OF 1972. INCLUDED IN THE ACT
ARE PROVISIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE TAKING OF MARINE MAMMALS
INCIDENTAL TO COMMERCIAL FISHING FOR TUNA. YOU WILL RECALL
THAT THE LATE MR. WILLIAM TERRY DESCRIBED THESE PROVISIONS
AT LAST YEAR'S COMMISSION MEETING IN PANAMA.

IT IS THE GOAL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT THE INIT IS THE GOAL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT THE INCIDENTIAL KILL OR SERIOUS INJURY OF MARINE MAMMALS RESULTING FROM TUNA FISHING BE REDUCED TO INSIGNIFICANT LEVELS APPROACHING A ZERO MORTALITY AND SERIOUS INJURY RATE. IN ORDER TO MEET THIS GOAL, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN CONDUCTING RESEARCH DESIGNED TO DEVELOP FISHING METHODS AND GEAR WHICH WILL REDUCE THIS INCIDENTAL KILL AND INJURY RATE.

THE MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT DIRECTS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION IN ORDER TO REDUCE TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE THE MORTALITY AND SERIOUS INJURY OF MARINE MAMMALS CAUSED BY VESSELS OF ALL COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC TUNA FISHERY. WE BEGAN THESE NEGOTIATIONS LAST YEAR BY BRINGING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ACT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES, AND WE HOPE TO HAVE A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM AT THIS YEAR'S COMMISSION MEETING.

SECTION 111(C) OF THE ACT ALSO DIRECTS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST YOU, AS THE DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION, TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALL MEMBER NATIONS OF THE COMMISSION AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE REGARDING THE USE OF FISHING METHODS AND GEAR WHICH THE AVAILABLE RESEARCH INDICATES IS EFFECTIVE IN REDUCING INCIDENTAL MARINE MAMMAL MORTALITY AND SERIOUS INJURY RATE. WE CONSIDER THIS LETTER UNCLASSIFIED

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TO CONSTITUTE SUCH REQUEST, AND WE PLAN TO SPEAK TO IT AGAIN AT THE COMMISSION MEETING IN NOVEMBER. WE HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THIS REQUEST. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 OCT 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1973STATE211498 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: EEB

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973109/aaaaagcd.tel Line Count: 111 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ORIGIN COA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: kelleyw0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 05 DEC 2001

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ORPOISE ITEM ON AGENDA OF INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

TAGS: EFIS, XP To: OTTAWA MULTIPLE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005